

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated  
Reply to Advisory Action of January 8, 2007

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for identifying metadata about a first resource identified by a first Uniform Resource Identifier ("URI") identifier, the method comprising:

issuing a request for the first resource identified by the first URI identifier;

receiving a response document from the first URI;

parsing a the response document received in response to the issued request, wherein the response document includes a second URI for accessing a second resource, wherein the response document includes an indication that metadata about the first resource exists on the second resource, wherein the indication indicates a metadata format; an indication that the metadata exists within a second resource identified by a second identifier, the indication identifying the metadata format;

generating a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource, wherein the generated request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication; and retrieving the metadata from the second resource.

2. (previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication comprises an XML processing instruction.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

5. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises the second URI identifier.

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated  
Reply to Advisory Action of January 8, 2007

6. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

7. (previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an expected response type of text/xml.

8. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

9. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises the second URI identifier.

10. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the metadata from the second resource location occurs automatically and without further user interaction.

11. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for identifying metadata about a first resource identified by a first Uniform Resource Locator "URI", the instructions comprising: encoded with a data structure, comprising a discovery document stored in the data structure, wherein:

issuing a request for a first resource identified by a first URI associated with the request;

receiving a response document from the first URI;

parsing the response document received in response to the issued request, wherein the response document includes a second URI for retrieving a discovery document, wherein the response document includes an indication that metadata about the first resource is associated with the discovery document;

using the second URI to generate a request to retrieve the discovery document from the second resource; and

retrieving the discovery document from the second resource, wherein the discovery document includes a link that indicates the existence of further metadata about the first resource.

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated  
Reply to Advisory Action of January 8, 2007

~~the discovery document comprises metadata about a resource stored at a first location identified by a first identifier, and a typed link indicating the existence of further metadata about the resource, wherein the typed link identifies the metadata format; and~~

~~the data structure is stored at a second location identified by a second identifier, wherein the metadata is retrieved from the second location in response to a request, and further wherein the request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the typed link.~~

12. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates the existence of a second discovery document and a location of the second discovery document.

13. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to a Web-based service.

14. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein another typed link indicates a link to a description of the Web-based service.

15. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to an XML schema.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for identifying metadata about a first resource identified by a first Uniform Resource Identifier "URI", the instructions comprising: encoded with a data structure, comprising a response document stored in the data structure, wherein:

issuing a the response document is issued in response to a request for a resource at a first location identified by a first URI, wherein the response document includes a second URI for accessing a second resource, wherein the response document includes an indication that metadata

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated  
Reply to Advisory Action of January 8, 2007

about the first resource exists on the second resource, wherein the indication indicates a metadata format; and

~~the response document includes an indication that metadata exists at a second location that is different from the first location;~~

~~the indication identifies the metadata format;~~

issuing a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource, wherein is issued;

~~and the request to retrieve the metadata is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication.~~

18. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the response document is an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

19. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the response document is an XML document and the indication comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

20. (Currently amended) A system for communicating data over a network, the system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory having computer-executable instructions stored thereon, the computer-executable instructions being configured to:

issue a request for a first resource identified by a first Uniform Resource Indicator

"URI" associated with the request;

receive a response document from the first URI;

parse the response document received in response to the issued request, wherein the response document includes a second URI for accessing a second resource, wherein the response document includes an indication that metadata about the first resource exists on the second resource;

generate a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource; and

retrieve the metadata from the second resource.

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated  
Reply to Advisory Action of January 8, 2007

~~a server computer including a resource;~~  
~~a client computer configured to issue a request for the resource and to receive information~~  
~~in response to the request; and~~  
~~a response document based on the resource, generated by the server, and including an~~  
~~indication of the existence of a discovery document at a location different than the server~~  
~~computer, the discovery document including metadata about the resource, wherein:~~  
~~the indication identifies the metadata format,~~  
~~the client computer receives the response document including the indication of the~~  
~~discovery document,~~  
~~the client computer generates a request to retrieve the metadata from the discovery~~  
~~document, and~~  
~~the generated request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the~~  
~~indication.~~

21. (previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

22. (previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

23. (New) A computer-implemented method for obtaining metadata about a first web service, the method comprising:

issuing a request for a first web service, wherein the first web service is associated with a first Uniform Resource Indicator "URI";

receiving a response document from the first URI in response to the request, wherein the response document includes a second URI for accessing a second web service, wherein the response document includes an indication that metadata about the first web service exists on the second web service; and

App. No. 10/073,670

Response Dated

Reply to Advisory Action of January 8, 2007

using the second URI to obtain the metadata from the second web service.